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Anthropology Newsletter

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Anthropology News

Bringing Maine to the World and the World to Maine



Orono, Maine • Summer 2013 • Issue 6



Dr. Roscoe Scales the Great Wall of China this Summer

Hello and welcome to the latest edition of the Department of Anthropology's Annual newsletter. In last year's newsletter, I announced that 2011-2012 had been a year of changes. Little did I realize then how many more we would see in 2012-2013!

At the end of the Spring semester, we bid farewell to two of our junior faculty. Assistant Professor **Constanza Ocampo-Raeder** left us for Carleton College, and Assistant Professor **Catherine West** left to join her husband, Andrew, at Boston University. Our other major loss was **Shelley Palmer**, our dear administrative assistant and the driving force behind the newsletter. Family circumstances drew Shelley south, and she currently works for the University of Southern Maine in Portland. Beyond the department, Professor **Kristin Sobolik**, who left the department in 2011 to become

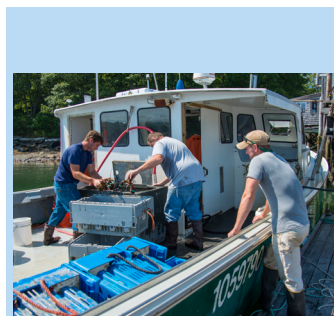
Associate Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, has now left UMaine to become Dean of Liberal Arts at Wright State.

Still, without losses there are no gains, and we were both delighted and fortunate to welcome two new colleagues to the department. Assistant Professors **Christine Beitzl** and **Cindy Isenhour**. Christine received her Ph.D. from the University of Georgia in 2012. She is an economic and environmental anthropologist, with particular interests in coastal and maritime anthropology. Cindy, who comes to us from a Mellon post-doc in Environmental Studies at Center College, received her Ph.D. from the University of Kentucky in 2010, and she specializes in environmental anthropology, economic anthropology, and climate change policy. We were also delighted to welcome Ms. **Gail Agrell**, who has stepped most capably into **Shelley Palmer's** shoes, and it is a pleasure to report that despite the craziness associated with the job of administrative specialist – Chairs with their hair permanently on fire, disheveled faculty members wandering the halls, bird seed flying everywhere – she has taken it all in stride!

Last year, the Department accepted its first students into the new PhD program in Anthropology and Environmental Policy. We move into the next academic year with two excellent PhD candidates. **Kourtney Collum** is conducting comparative research in the US and Canada on the human dimensions of native bee conservation. **Sam Belknap**, who was admitted into UMaine's IGERT program in Adaption to Abrupt Climate Change, is researching the policy implications of climate change for the Maine lobster industry: Sam is, himself, a lobsterman. Kourtney and Sam deserve our warmest thanks for putting together this newsletter.

Finally, Associate Professor **Greg Zaro**, our specialist in Meso-American and South American archaeology, spent seven months of 2013 on a prestigious Fulbright Scholarship in Croatia, where he is starting up Old World archaeological research to parallel his New World research in Peru and Belize. As of September 1st, Greg has also taken over as Chair, a duty I gracefully and gratefully cede!

Paul ("Jim") Roscoe



Department Faculty

Gregory Zaro,
Associate Professor
and Chair

James Acheson,
Emeritus Professor/
Research Professor

Christine Beitzl,
Assistant Professor

Stephen Hornsby,
Professor

Cindy Isenhour,
Assistant Professor

Henry Munson,
Professor

Lisa Neuman,
Associate Professor

Darren Ranco,
Associate Professor

Brian Robinson,
Associate Professor

Paul "Jim" Roscoe,
Professor

Daniel Sandweiss,
Professor

Cooperating Faculty

Teresa Johnson,
Assistant Professor

Alice Kelley,
Assistant Professor

Timothy Waring,
Assistant Professor

Research Faculty

Marcella Sorg,
Associate Professor

Faculty Associates

Ann Acheson,
Eunice Blavascunas,
Marcia-Anne Dobres,
Sam Hanes,
Pauleena MacDougall,
Karen Miller,
Kurt Rademaker

The Department Welcomes Two New Faculty Members



New Assistant Professor **Christine Beitzl** is a human ecologist and environmental anthropologist broadly interested in the relationship between social, political, and economic systems. Christine specializes in the study of collective action and common pool resources in coastal and marine environments. The ultimate goal of her research is to understand the complex causes and consequences of social-ecological change and to establish new frameworks for the study of sustainability and environmental governance. She has explored these themes through research in Latin America and teaching experience in Australia and Fiji.

Since 2006, Christine has been working in Ecuador where shrimp aquaculture has transformed much of the coastal mangrove landscape and associated artisanal fisheries for crabs, cockles, and clams. The legacy of habitat fragmentation and a changing policy environment that now recognizes the ancestral rights of artisanal fishers has made Ecuador an ideal location to study the complex interactions between people and common pool resources in coastal environments. Before beginning her Ph.D. program in Ecological and Environmental Anthropology at the University of Georgia, Christine conducted master's research on community-based conservation in Bolivia, ecotourism in Mexico, and the labor and living conditions among Haitian migrant workers in the Dominican Republic's sugar industry.

Christine says she looks forward to, *"learning more about Maine's fisheries and other livelihoods and to finding new hobbies to get through the first icy winter I will have experienced in a VERY long time!"*



New Assistant Professor **Cindy Isenhour** comes to the Department from a two year Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship studying urban sustainability policy and practice. Cindy's research focuses on environmental policies and consumption practices designed to reduce the displaced environmental and climate impacts associated with high levels of consumption and waste in affluent urban contexts. This work took her to Stockholm and Beijing in the summer of 2012 to explore how the two nations are cooperating to address the environmental impacts of Swedish consumption displaced into China.

"I plan to return to Stockholm and Beijing next summer to conduct additional research on Sweden's generational goal which states that Sweden will protect their environment without damaging the environment elsewhere" says Cindy. Yet in the context of Sweden's highly competitive capitalist economy and consumer culture, she suggests that policies designed to encourage reduced consumption are politically precarious. Instead Sweden's approach has been to help China improve the carbon efficiency of production through technological assistance. She argues, *"This opens up all sorts of lines of inquiry about the intricacies of implementation, effectiveness and the economics of abatement - but it also raises intriguing questions about the normativity of consumer culture, the ideology of growth and the contemporary prevalence of concepts like 'green economy' and 'clean development'"*. Cindy's work on the climate impact of consumption and urban sustainability will soon be available in a book she is co-editing with Melissa Checker (CUNY-Queens) and Gary McDonogh (Bryn Mawr) entitled *"Sustainability in the Global City: Myth and Practice"* due out in 2014.

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Edited by Sam Belknap & Kourtney Collum

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A Great Year for Archaeology

This year we conducted three different archaeology programs spanning nearly eight weeks. The MAPI (Maine Academic Prominence Initiative) field school (ANT 477) ran for four weeks in June. Working with the Passamaquoddy Petroglyph Project, we continued work on a Late Woodland shell midden site in Machias Bay. We had a good year finding important animal bone remains that relate to subsistence,

animal symbolism and the rock art. It was the year of the gray seal and sea mink (for inquiries into this intriguing statement please contact Dr. **Brian Robinson**). The field work includes full days on site but with field trips to the Birch Point petroglyph site and the Passamaquoddy Cultural Heritage Museum in Indian Township, presented by Donald Soctomah, among other locations. Evening speakers included petroglyph archaeologist Mark Hedden, UMaine Native Studies and History professor Micah Pawling, and Penobscot Tribal Historic Preservation

Archaeologist **Chris Sockalexis**.

We also heard a talk by UMaine Anthropology alumnus **Nick Ranco** on Penobscot craft traditions of his own family. Graduate students **Walter Beckwith** and **Kendra Bird** assisted with the field school.

We are excited to welcome Kendra as our newest Masters



Field school students in Machias, with the addition of guest excavators and speakers (by photoshop). This was the year of the Sea Mink, to explain the stuffed four-footed guests.

student. She will be working on the Machias excavations for her graduate research.

In July we had a brief but very busy two day excavation and public outreach project at the Wigwam site on the upper Machias River. Working with the Downeast Salmon Federation, the Cobscook Community Learning Center, and the Passamaquoddy Heritage Museum, we conducted educational and salvage archaeology on an eroding Late

Ceramic period site. Everyone got to participate in the recovery of artifacts, 40% of which were made of stones from the northern shores of Minas Basin in Nova Scotia.

In July we obtained a permit from the Archaeological Conservancy and spent three weeks sampling one of Maine's rare and endangered Late Archaic period shell middens, the Waterside site in Sorrento. This site was first excavated and published in 1940 by John Rowe. Despite challenging conditions working on a slope wedged between a paved road and an eroding bank, we were able to relocate his excavation units and even identify specific rocks and features in his wall profiles that allowed us to fully use his research. Occupation at the site began at least 4000 years ago when swordfish, and possibly other warm-water species, inhabited the Gulf of Maine. PhD candidate **Sky Heller**, who was recently awarded an IGERT Adaptations to Abrupt Climate Change (A2C2) fellowship, will use the samples we collected to study past changes in Gulf of Maine fish communities during the shift from these past warmer conditions to the colder conditions we see today. Understanding these changes may help us to prepare for ongoing and future shifts back toward warmer conditions.

-Brian Robinson



Volunteers at the Wigwam site on the upper Machias River.

UMaine Anthropology Alums - We Want to Hear From You!

What have you done since graduation? We would like to inform current and prospective students of the many opportunities that a degree in anthropology can lead to. Send to the University of Maine Department of Anthropology, 5773 S. Stevens Hall, Orono, ME 04469-5773 or email Gail.Agrell@umit.maine.edu

Student Honors and Awards

2013 Anthropology Outstanding Graduating Senior



In April, the Department was delighted to name **Carmen Linden** the 2013 Anthropology Outstanding Graduating Senior. While at UMaine, Carmen double majored in Anthropology and Sociology. Originally from Ottawa, Ontario, Carmen excelled at the University and in the Department, where she maintained an exceptional GPA while also serving as an outstanding tutor to fellow student athletes in anthropology. In 2012, Carmen was voted captain of the swim team and was named to the 2012 America East All-Academic team, placing eighth in the 1650 yard freestyle at the America East Championships and 15th in the 500-yard freestyle. She was also a member of the sixth place 800-yard freestyle relay team that set a new record for UMaine at the Championships. In February of 2013, she was again part of the America East conference championships, captaining a swim team that, along

with the diving team, set thirteen school records! Through the swim team and the university, Carmen engaged in many volunteering opportunities, from helping out at the Old Town Recreation Center to cooking food at the Bangor Homeless Shelter. We are fortunate that although Carmen has graduated, she has not left us. She begins a Masters in Social Work at UMaine this fall to pursue her vocation as a social worker.

CUGR Fellowship Awards

The Department is pleased to announce that two of its seniors, **Kendra Bird** and **Samantha Dunning** were awarded the 2012-2013 Center for Undergraduate Research Fellowship Awards. The fellowships were developed to enhance



Kendra Bird

and increase undergraduate student involvement in faculty supervised research, and are supported through a PRE-VUE grant awarded by the President's Office. Kendra's research, entitled *Specialized Activities in the Middle Woodland Period: Organic Chemistry and Botanical Analysis*, was overseen by her advisor Dr. **Brian Robinson**. Samantha's research, entitled *Biogeography and History of the Chirikof Island Ground Squirrel*, was overseen by her advisor Dr. **Catherine West**.



Samantha Dunning

Student and Alumni Updates



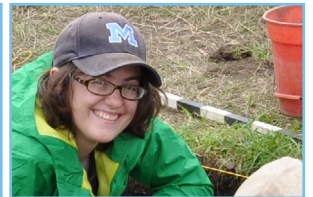
In December 2011 **Sky Heller** received her MS in Quaternary and Climate Studies with a focus in Prehistoric Archaeology at the University of Maine. She was recently accepted into the NSF Funded IGERT program, Adaptation to Abrupt Climate Change (A2C2), at the University of Maine. Sky's dissertation will focus on using information from endangered shell midden sites along the Gulf of Maine to understand past fish ecology. She hopes to use her findings to help form successful conservation and sustainability policies to keep the Gulf of Maine thriving and productive for future generations.

In conjunction with the multi-disciplinary and multi-institutional Programme for Belize Archaeological Project, **Walter Beckwith** has conducted a portable XRF spectrometry provenance analysis on over 1,700 obsidian artifacts recovered from a number of ancient Maya sites in the Three Rivers region of northwestern Belize. This allows raw material sourcing and the discovery of ancient trade ways allowing for a glimpse into the ancient Maya political economy. Walter's analysis is among the largest of its kind ever conducted in the Maya lowlands and forms the core of his masters research.



On January 13, 2013, UMaine IPhD student **Ana Cecilia Mauricio** was an invited participant on a National Geographic Society Live Chat to celebrate the Society's 125th anniversary. The event featured seven explorers from seven continents including primatologist Jane Goodall and discoverer of the Titanic Robert Ballard. She is currently excavating the early mound site of Los Morteros on the Peruvian coast. Recently, Cecilia was awarded a National Geographic Society Waitt Foundation grant and a Beca Andina (Andean Fellowship) from the French Institute for Andean Studies.

This fall **Kendra Bird** begins the Climate Change Institute's Quaternary and Climate Studies MS program. Kendra is working with Dr. Brian Robinson on coastal indigenous archaeology in the Gulf of Maine, particularly the Holmes Point West site in Machiasport. Kendra is a native of Bangor and a 2013 UMaine graduate with a B.A. in Anthropology and minors in Canadian Studies and Franco-American studies. Her academic interests include contact-period historical archaeology in Maine, the Canadian Maritimes, and Quebec.



This summer, along with **Alice Kelley** and **Dan Sandweiss**, **Paul Pluta** investigated two archaeological sites in the northern coastal desert of Peru, in an attempt to reconstruct past El Niño behavior and its relationship to the region's archaeological record. He also traveled with UMaine researchers Scott Braddock and Gordon Bromley to Peru's southern highlands for a project developed with **Kurt Rademaker** attempting to date glacial coverage and thus accessibility by prehistoric humans of the Chivay obsidian source.

Anthropology and Environmental Policy PhD Program



Samuel Belknap continues his work on the impacts of abrupt changes to the Gulf of Maine on Maine lobstermen. This summer he worked with lobstermen to understand how they are dealing with environmental changes. Recently he was invited into a multi-state research program tasked with determining how participation by fishermen in research, modeling and outreach can help Atlantic fisheries deal with climate change. Sam has been invited to speak about his research at Lycoming College in Pennsylvania and at the 2014 Ocean Sciences Meeting in Honolulu.



Kourtney Collum continues her doctoral research examining the factors that influence adoption of pollinator conservation practices among Maine blueberry growers. Kourtney was awarded the 2013 Maine Studies Graduate Student Research and Creativity Award for her paper on issues affecting migrant farmworkers in Maine's wild blueberry industry. This summer, she traveled to Tallahassee, Florida to attend the NSF Ethnographic FieldSchool, a five week immersion program in anthropological methods and community based participatory research (CBPR).

Faculty News



Gregory Zaro has recently returned from a seven month stay along the eastern Adriatic coast on a Fulbright Scholar grant to lecture and conduct research at the University of Zadar, Croatia. The purpose of the award was to pursue an interdisciplinary program of study concerning landscape evolution and human agency over the past 2000 years in the region, and to evaluate the potential for developing a long-term research program. The little-studied archaeological site of Nadin and its hinterland emerged as a region with great potential for such a program, as well as Ugljan Island situated just offshore from Zadar. Greg was also successful in building a collaborative and interdisciplinary network of colleagues in archaeology, geography, and the environmental sciences at the University of Zadar, Croatia, and the University of Ljubljana, Slovenia, which will enable this research to begin and move forward over the coming years.



Dan Sandweiss spent part of July and August in northern Peru working on the Peru Human Ecodynamics Project (PHEP), which he co-directs with Harvard colleagues Jeffery Quilter and Steven LeBlanc. Working together with Cooperating Asst. Professor **Alice Kelley** and CCI graduate students **Cecilia Mauricio** and **Paul Pluta**, Sandweiss investigated sedimentary records of ancient El Niño events under the Moche culture sites of San José de Moro and Huaca de la Luna. He also collaborated with Bangor High School science teacher Cary James and student Andy Sandweiss to look for ancient dams used to mitigate El Niño floods in the area and to find sites for micro-dams to be used in future mitigation strategies. In early September, Dan spent a week in Puebla, Mexico at the UNESCO Meeting of International Experts on The First Peopling of the Americas and the World Heritage Convention.



Darren Ranco had a busy summer working on many new and ongoing research projects. This included applying for several grants, including one to continue research begun in 2009 studying and facilitating the response by Wabanaki basketmakers and Tribal governments to the invasive Emerald Ash Borer. Darren also led a team of researchers, with the help of the Mitchell Center, to apply for a grant from the Environmental Protection Agency to work with the Passamaquoddy Tribe to develop a Climate Change adaptation plan. He also attended a conference in July on "Environmental Health Disparities and Environmental Justice," hosted by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), where he networked with people from EPA, NIH, NIEHS, community organizations, tribal colleges, and tribal governments. This connects with his ongoing work as Chair of Native American Programs linking Native students to research opportunities and community based research at tribal colleges.



Stephen Hornsby is on sabbatical at Middlebury College for fall 2013. He is relaxing and writing a fun book on American pictorial maps of the mid-twentieth century. His most recent book, *Surveyors of Empire*, received the Pierre Savard Award from the International Council for Canadian Studies in June 2013. This is the book's third award. The Historical Atlas of Maine is now "in press" at the University of Maine Press. This long-awaited atlas should appear in the next few months. Apart from research and writing, Stephen made memorable trips to Wales and Newfoundland this summer.



Samuel Hanes is beginning the second of a 5-year USDA/NIFA funded research project, where he is working to identify strategies to help New England farmers increase their use of native bees for pollination. In August, Sam and **Kourtney Collum** were awarded a Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (NESARE) grant to begin a project evaluating methods for integrating social and natural science to improve pollination outreach and education for Maine farmers.



Lisa Neuman's new book, *Indian Play: Indigenous Identities at Bacone College*, is slated to be on the shelves by January, 2014 (U Nebraska Press). The book is based on archival and ethnographic research, including the participation

of more than one hundred Bacone College (OK) alumni, staff, and faculty who were at the school during the 1920s, 30s, 40s and 50s. Lisa examines the development of a creative curriculum and Indian-centered peer culture on campus ("Indian play"), situating them within larger theoretical frameworks of cultural creativity, ideologies of authenticity, and counter hegemonic practices that are central to the fields of Anthropology and Native American studies today.



Pauleena MacDougall's newest book, *Fannie Hardy Eckstorm and Her Quest for Local Knowledge: 1865-1946*, was recently published by Lexington Press. The book covers the life of Fannie

Eckstorm, Maine author of six books and many articles on natural history, woods culture, and Indian language and lore. Pauleena was also recently awarded a three year grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to work with the Penobscot Indian Nation and the American Philosophical Society to publish a Penobscot Indian Language Dictionary. The dictionary is based on Frank T. Siebert's field work with native speakers from 1935-1993. Pauleena will work with a team including Dr. Timothy B. Powell, Dr. Conor Quinn and Penobscot Nation Language Program personnel on this project. The dictionary will be published in a hardcover edition by the University of Maine Press.



Kurt Rademaker has been working for Northeast Archaeology Research Center, Inc. (out of Farmington) since June. He has been field directing a Phase 3 excavation of a multicomponent site along the Missisquoi River

in Northwest Vermont. This year Kurt has published three peer-reviewed articles in three separate prestigious academic journals. He will be back teaching at UMaine for the Anthropology Department this spring semester.



Catherine West, Samantha Dunning ('13) and Chase Tingle ('09) worked with the Alutiiq Museum in the Kodiak archipelago of Alaska to excavate a series of prehistoric sites in the village of Old Harbor, in

anticipation of a runway extension. They made many local friends while living in the village, took steam baths, went to Russian Orthodox church service, met Alaska's senator Lisa Murkowski, hiked, fished, and had many Kodiak brown bear encounters! In July, West and Dunning traveled to Chirikof Island, Alaska on a project funded by National Geographic. While there they worked with a team including archaeologist Patrick Saltonstall (a native Mainer) from the Alutiiq Museum and ornithologist Jack Withrow from the University of Alaska, to sample archaeological middens around the island and to do modern bird surveys. They will use this information to address the long-term effects that climate, human hunting, and invasive species have had on the bird populations of this uninhabited island. They felt very lucky to visit an island very few people have seen.

Recent Department Publications

Hanes, S. 2013. Common property mapping and the preservation of traditional rights in Chesapeake Bay's oyster fishery, 1892-1914. *Journal of Cultural Geography*.

Hanes, S., Collum, K., Hoshide, A., Asare, E. 2013. Grower perceptions of native pollinators and pollination strategies in the lowbush blueberry industry. *Renewable Agriculture and Food Systems*.

Lynn, K., Daigle, J., Hoffman, J., Lake, F., Michelle, N., Ranco, D., Viles, C., Voggeser, G., Williams, P. 2013. The Impacts of Climate Change on Tribal Traditional Foods. *Climatic Change* 120(3): 545-556, Published Online 26 March 2013 (In Print, October 2013).

MacDougall, P. 2013. *Fannie Hardy Eckstorm (1865-1946) and Her Quest for Local Knowledge*. Lexington Press.

Neuman, L. 2013. *Indian Play: Indigenous Identities at Bacone College*. University of Nebraska Press. (In Print, January 2014).

Rademaker, K., Bromley, G.R.M., Sandweiss, D.H., 2013. Peru archaeological radiocarbon database, 13,000-7000 14C B.P. *Quaternary International* 30, 34-45.

Rademaker, K., Glascock, M.D., Kaiser, B., Gibson, D., Lux, D.R., Yates, M.G., 2013. Multi-technique geochemical characterization of the Alca obsidian source, Peruvian Andes. *Geology* 41(7), 779-782.

Sandweiss, D.H., Rademaker, K.M., 2013. El poblamiento del sur Peruano: costa y sierra. *Boletín de Arqueología PUCP* 15, 274-294. Lima.

Tito, R.Y., Knights, D., Metcalf, J., Obregon-tito, A.J., Cleeland, L., Najjar, F., Roe, B., Reinhard, K., Sobolik, K., Belknap III, S., Foster, M., Spicer, P., Knight, R., and Lewis Jr, C.M. 2012. Insights from Characterizing Extinct Human Gut Microbiomes. *PLOS one* 7(12): 1-8.

Voggeser, G., Lynn, K., Daigle, J., Lake, F., Ranco, D. 2013. Cultural Impacts to Tribes from Climate Change Influences on Forests. *Climatic Change* 120(3): 615-626, Published Online 29 March 2013 (In Print, October 2013).



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ANNUAL FUND

The Annual Fund is an opportunity for those closest to the University of Maine, our Alumni, Parents, Friends, and Faculty/Staff to play an important role in the University's present and in its future. Last year, with Department of Anthropology gift funds, we helped students travel abroad to participate in research projects. This hands-on experience is invaluable. Our

main objective is to ensure there are funds available to allow us to respond quickly and appropriately to the areas of greatest need within the Department of Anthropology. Your donations, combined with those of others, make a significant and immediate impact on the quality of the 'UMaine Experience' for our students.

We invite you to become an active part of this campaign by making your gift on behalf of the Department of Anthropology to the Annual Fund by visiting us on-line at www.umaine.edu/give or by calling 207.581.1148 or toll-free at 866-578-2156. Remember, it isn't just about how much you give, but the fact that you give that makes a real difference. For more information about The Annual Fund, contact Ulysses Tucker, Jr. (ullysses.tucker@umaine.edu), Director of Annual Giving at 207.581.1157.

Thank you for your consideration and support.